

CITY OF WINCHESTER.

---

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1898.

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*Printed by Order of the Winchester Urban District Council.*

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FEBRUARY 21ST, 1899.





## Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1898.

*To the Urban District Council of the City of Winchester.*

GENTLEMEN,

The following is my Report for the year 1898.

The health of the District for the past twelve months has been very satisfactory ; the death rate has fallen to 12·8, against 13·1 for 1897. The actual number of deaths of children under 5 years is nearly as favorable as last year. There was no death from Small Pox, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Whooping Cough, or the group of diseases classified as Fevers, and only two from Measles ; but on the other hand an epidemic of Diarrhœa in the third quarter of the year caused 16 deaths.

The Population of the District is estimated at 18,597, as against 18,350 for 1897, accounted for by the erection of new houses which were inhabited during the whole or part of the year in the Parish of Weeke, comprised in Group I of the Tables A and B, and in the Parishes of St. Bartholomew Hyde, St. Peter Cheesehill, and St. Faith, comprised in Group II. There has been a small increase in the average strength at the Barracks. The number of inhabitants of Group III appears unchanged.

Tables A and B are appended, and are similar to those of previous years.

The deaths in 1898 amounted to 239. Of these deaths three were at the Barracks, and 42 at the Union Workhouse ; 26 of the latter belong to the Urban, and 16 to other Districts. During the year, 16 deaths occurred at the County Hospital, of persons belonging to this District, which are not included in the Tables ; this Institution being situated within the Area of the Rural Sanitary District.

Taking the grouping of Table A the deaths in the District occurred at the following ages : —

Deaths under 1 year of age	...	...	54	}	68
„ over „ „ and under 5 years	...	...	14		
„ „ 5 years	„ 15 „	...	5	}	171
„ „ 15 „	„ 25 „	...	8		
„ „ 25 „	„ 65 „	...	68		
„ „ 65 „	„ „	...	90		

That life is frequently greatly prolonged in this District, is shown by pointing out that of the 90 persons who died last year over the age of 65, 36 died at ages over 80, 6 of these had reached the age of 90, and 1 lived to 97.

The Registered Births were 450, a few less than the previous year.



The following Table shows how the Population, Births and Deaths, and Deaths from Zymotic Diseases were distributed in 1898.

LOCALITY.	GROUP. I.*	GROUP II.†	GROUP III.‡	BAR- RACKS.	WORK- HOUSE.	The Whole District.	
Area in Acres ...	...	...	...	...	...	A. R.	1043 2
Population—Census, 1891	5850	6388	5619	1216	Included in Group I.		19073
„ Estimated for 1898	5910	6695	5629	363	„		18597
Persons to Acre ...	...	...	...	...	...		17·82
Total Deaths ...	53	81	60	3	42		239
Deaths from 7 principal Zymotic Diseases ...	1	9	9	...	...		...
Total Births ...	159	151	120	13	7		450

\* Group I.—The Parishes of St. Thomas, Weeke, and part of Chilcombe.

† Group II.—The Parishes of St. Bartholomew Hyde, St. Peter Cheesehill, Milland, St. Faith, St. John, and Winnall.

‡ Group III.—The Parishes of St. Maurice, St. Mary Kalendar, St. Lawrence, St. Swithun, St. Michael, and St. Peter Colebrook.

The following Table shows the comparative mortality of the whole District, and as divided into three almost equal Groups of Parishes, and also of the component Parishes of Group II, together with the Birth Rate in these Localities.

LOCALITY.	GROUP I.*	GROUP II.	GROUP III.	The Whole District.	Component Parishes of Group II.			
					St. Bar- tholomew Hyde.	St. Peter Cheesehill and Milland.	St. Faith	St. John and Winnall.
Deaths per 1000 ...	8·9	12	10·6	12·8	9	12	9	17
Percentage of Deaths of Children under 5 years	29	33	36	28	35	26	15	48
Births per 1000 ...	26·9	22	21	24·1	15	30	13	33
Percentage of Deaths of Children under 1 year to Births ...	8·8	13	14	12	12	11	7	18
Deaths per 1000 from Zymotic Diseases ...	...	...	...	1·02	...	...	...	...

\* The numbers in this Column are affected by the Population, and the Births at the Workhouse situated within the area of Group I being included.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES—

The following are some details as to how the District was affected by these diseases in 1898.

SMALL POX.—No case. It is not likely that this favorable state of things will continue if Vaccination is neglected, the only real protection against this terrible disease.

SCARLATINA.—Twenty cases were notified, of these, eighteen were removed to the Victoria Hospital, and the two others were isolated at their own homes, all recovered. They occurred in all parts of the District ; 6 in Group I, 6 in Group II, and 8 in Group III. Two were adults, the rest children. In one family there were 4 cases, in two others 3 each. The disease was introduced twice from other Districts, and spread to six in the one, and to three in the other instance. Its appearance on two other occasions could not be accounted for.

The cases occurred in the following order : —

January	February	March	September	October	November	December
1	4	2	6	3	1	3

DIPHThERIA.—Sixteen cases were notified, less than half the number of the previous year, 5 were young adults, the rest children, 15 were isolated in Hospital. There appeared to be no connection between the cases, except two brothers from the same house, where there existed a bad sink nuisance. St. Swithun's School to which allusion was made in my last Report, in connection with this disease sent one case in August and one in September. This Institution is now closed. That some persons are especially liable to this disease, is shown by the fact that two of these Patients had been in Hospital with Diphtheria in former years, one of these from the same house. Another now residing in another district has had a second attack.

The cases occurred in the following order : —

Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
3	1	1	1	2	1	4	1	1	1

ENTRIC FEVER.—Two cases were notified, and a third was diagnosed after leaving the District. Two were treated in the County Hospital and one died there. They all came from houses in the same locality. One of these houses has since been closed on account of its insanitary condition. The others had most unwholesome surroundings, and the disease made its appearance during the hot and dry month of August.

MEASLES.—Not prevalent at any time, two fatal cases, one an infant, the other a young woman.



DIARRHŒA.—This disease was very prevalent during the hot dry months of the Autumn. Fifteen infants died from June 1st to October 7th, and 12 of these in the month of September. It proved fatal to one aged person, and one at 33 died after a very short illness. It ceased almost suddenly with a heavy downpour of rain, and a fall in temperature. The fatal cases were mostly in low lying parts of the City as in former years.

ERYSIPELAS.—Thirteen cases; none fatal.

INFLUENZA.—Not general last year. It caused 3 deaths among the old people at the Workhouse. One other fatal case recorded, where it was complicated with Meningitis.

TUBERCULOSIS.—It is not out of place to ask your attention to this subject in its varied forms which causes so great mortality at all ages, and which should in the future engage the best efforts of Sanitary Authorities.

The following statement copied from a recent Report on Tuberculosis by the British Medical Association, shows the Annual Mortality in the United Kingdom from Tuberculosis, and from Acute Specific Diseases per Million living, at all ages, and in each of the first three quinquennial periods of life, during the decennium 1881–1890:—

				AGES.			
				0–5	0–10	10–15	ALL AGES.
(a) Acute Specific Diseases	}	United Kingdom		8,795	1,788	552	1,606
(b) Tuberculosis				4,351	962	995	2,488

“The Mortality from Tuberculosis in early childhood is not decreasing as it is at other ages, and the opinion that this prevalence of the disease in infancy and childhood, is due to infection through the alimentary canal by Milk from Tuberculous Cows appears to be well founded.”

“The infection of Tuberculosis in Milk can be destroyed by boiling or sterilization.” “But since freedom from Tuberculosis in cows can be ascertained, it seems undesirable to relieve wholesale and retail vendors of their responsibility by recommending the boiling of milk.”

Although there is less danger in the consumption of Tuberculous meat, it certainly exists, and Sanitary Authorities should endeavour to obtain more control over milk and meat supplies.

During the hot and dry months of the summer the streets were watered with a solution of Manganate of Soda, and the result suggests a repetition of this process in dry weather.

Numerous inspections both systematic and as occasion has required, and in connection with notified cases of disease have led to the discovery and abatement of many nuisances, and experience suggests that such investigations should be both more frequent and systematic.

Housing of the Working Class.—During the year ten houses were certified as unfit for habitation. The owner of three of these has made them habitable by executing additions and repairs. Closing Orders have been obtained in respect of the remaining seven; nothing has been done to render them fit for occupation. They are all worn-out houses, and might with advantage be pulled down.

The necessary supervision has been exercised over the various Trades for which you are responsible, and has led to many improvements.

The Water Supply has maintained its excellent reputation, and has been supplied in sufficient quantity to the consumers. Its chemical examination has been found satisfactory, and the last Bacteriological Report of the Clinical Research Association states:—"This sample of water was found to contain 17 organisms per cubic centimetre, a number which shows it to be one of great bacterial purity."

Plans for New buildings have been submitted to me to point out such improvements or defects as might suggest themselves to the Health Officer, and my presence at many Committee Meetings has given me the opportunity of offering suggestions on various occasions.

It now only remains to thank you for your uniform kindness and consideration, and to express a hope that our united efforts may in the future result in still greater improvements of the Public Health.

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

GUILDHALL, WINCHESTER,  
21st February, 1899.









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(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1898, in the Urban Sanitary District of Winchester, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purposes of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.  (a)	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births (d)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e)	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.												NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	Census 1891 (b)	Estimated to middle of 1898. (c)			Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina. 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Group 4	Fevers					Cholera. 10	Erysipelas. 11	Measles. 12	Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Group. 4	Fevers.					Cholera. 10	Erysipelas. 11	Measles. 12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
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Notification of Infectious Diseases became compulsory on February 1st, 1890.

No Diseases other than those included in the "Infectious Diseases Notification Act" are notifiable in the District.

The Isolation Hospital belongs to the Sanitary Authority, and is situated on high ground surrounded by breezy Downs in the Rural Sanitary District of Winchester, over a mile from the City. Cases of Infectious Sicknss at Winchester College, Barracks, and Workhouse are treated in their own Hospitals.





# VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

## REPORT of the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT for the Year 1898.

No Patients remained in Hospital on January 1st, 35 were admitted during the year (one a hospital servant), 3 of these remaining on December 31st.

There were Patients in the Hospital during 309 days, one day less than in the previous year. All recovered.

One case for Measles was admitted; the special circumstances which made it necessary, have been reported and approved by the Committee.

Although the number of <sup>Cases</sup> ~~calls~~ is small yet, there can be no doubt that the prompt means of isolation which the Hospital affords arrested the spread of disease to many persons, and perhaps averted a serious epidemic.

Although the new land has not been enclosed as was anticipated in my last Report, the Sub-Committee has done excellent work in determining to what extent the Hospital shall be increased.

	Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	No. of days in which the Hospital was in use
1887	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
1888	...	1	5	1	2	...	...	144
1889	...	6	5	3	1	1	...	240
1890	1	2	3	1	2	...	...	158
1891	...	6	3	...	...	...	...	165
1892	...	10	3	...	1	...	...	297
1893	17	118	2	3	2	...	...	327
1894	...	45	...	...	...	...	1	320
1895	...	26	9	...	...	...	...	363
1896	6	117	8	1	...	...	...	355
1897	...	15	26	...	...	...	...	310
1898	...	18	16	...	1	...	...	309

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for 1898.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
	£	s	d		£	s	d
Payment of				STRUCTURAL EXPENSES.			
Patient ...	1	0	8	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES.			
Sale of Hay ...	1	0	0	Salaries to Medical Superinten-			
				dent and for Medical Attend-			
				ance to Matron, Nurses,			
				Laundress and other Servants	281	14	2
				Repairs, Carpenters, Painters,			
				Upholsterers, Plumbers, Gla-			
				ziers and Ironmongers' work			
				and Household Articles ...	48	19	11
				Sweeping Chimneys ...	1	1	0
				Conveyance of Nurses ...	2	14	0
				Servants Registry Office, &c.		8	6
				Telegrams ...		2	6
				Stationery, Stamps and Carriage			
				of Parcels ...		13	1
				Rates, Taxes and Insurance ...	4	1	6
							339 14 8
				PATIENTS' EXPENSES.			
				Horse Hire for Ambulance ...	3	2	0
				Grocer ...	54	0	0
				Butcher ...	46	12	7
				Baker ...	8	7	0
				Milk ...	13	13	5
				Ale ...	6	19	6
				Wine ...		6	0
				Coal and Firewood ...	28	8	9
				Petroleum ...	3	2	6
				Antitoxin, Drugs and Disinfec-			
				tants ...	2	19	7
				Bacteriological Examination ...		2	6
				Manure ...	1	1	4
				Garden Seeds, &c. ...		12	4
Balance out of							169 7 6
Rates ...	507	1	6				
	£509	2	2				£509 2 2

The kindness of friends in sending gifts to the Hospital is gratefully acknowledged :—Mrs. Sharland, Flower Bulbs, Fruit, Apples, Christmas Cards, and Papers ; Captain Forrest, Books, Magazines, and Papers ; Miss Moody, Papers ; Mrs. Conduit, Parcel of Clothing ; Mrs. Jenvey, Bonbons and Sweets for Christmas Tree ; Mr. Allen, Toys and Sweets for Christmas Tree ; Mr. Langdon, Manure for Garden, Toys and Cake ; Mrs. Langdon, Magazines ; Mr. Pink, Oranges and Crackers.

The following gave donations to provide things suitable for the Christmas Season :—The Mayor, the Town Clerk, Miss Langdon, Mr. Langdon, Mr. Richards, Alderman Warren, and Alderman Morshead.

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.,  
Medical Superintendent.

GUILDHALL, WINCHESTER,  
21st February, 1899.